



29th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Developing our provision – Reading Sharing Stage 1 – ‘Focus on books’

Prompted by our own consideration of what our children need, as well as a national focus upon developing children’s experiences of reading, we are currently reviewing our reading provision across the school. It is this provision that sits underneath your child making the best possible progress in so many areas, and most of all seeing them develop as sense of themselves as a reader.

Reading is a fundamental skill that sits as a foundation to so much learning that we all experience, whether in school or beyond. We recognise the role in partnership with you that we all have to play in nurturing these skills and behaviours for your children as they that mean so much to the shape of their futures.

Welcoming you in for Time to Think as we are now able to do, is enabling you to see our learning environments in action again – thanks to all those who have stepped out and come on in. Where you have done this recently you will be seeing developments to libraries of books inside classrooms - new books, furniture and arrangements around children accessing books will be taking shape.

For those of you unable to join us you may be noticing new books being brought home for you to share with your child. The books currently being brought home have been chosen by your child, often with adult support, and are for you to share alongside them. **Children are not expected to be able to read these books independently, they are for you to enjoy together. Do not be concerned or discouraged if your child cannot read these books fluently, the focus is on enjoying a book together.**

We would encourage you to take the time to enjoy sharing these books with your child at home – this may see you reading the book to your child yourself; perhaps taking the turns reading the book together or listening to your child read where they feel confident and comfortable enough to do so; helping each other enjoy and understand the book by talking about what you can see and read; **simply enjoying the book together whatever this looks like!**

As you might imagine, books are very precious to all of our learners and as a result it is important to us that they are cared for and not lost. With this in mind an expectation that we share with all children and parents is that **reading books taken home come back to school every day, together with your child’s reading contact book.** Please feel free to use the contact book as best suits you – there is no right/wrong so please feel comfortable with these, and of course talk to your child’s teacher if you would like some guidance with this.

We are keen to maintain and preserve our developing book collection and as such where books taken home are lost or not returned **we will seek to be reimbursed for the cost of the book.** While this may not be the retail price of the book we’d be very keen to avoid the discomfort that this creates both for parents, carers, children and the school. With this in mind **please take care of our books and remember, bring them to school every day!**

We will be providing more updates around our developing reading provision over coming weeks. As always, feel free to speak to your child’s teacher in the meantime should you have any questions about your child’s learning and reading in particular – they will be happy to talk with you.

Yours sincerely,

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Co-Head Teacher